

11121 Wayne Road
Romulus, MI 48198
1 (734) 942-1111

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 119, No. 1

News you can use, news you can trust

Visit our award winning web site honored as one of the best in the state by Michigan Press Association



www.journalgroup.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM EVERYONE
HERE AT

THE
ROMULUS ROMAN

May 2007 bring only
the best to our community



News



Arbitrator settles
police contract

Page 2

Opinion



A little advice
for the New Year

Page 4

The Scene



Page 8



Dance away 2006

The Romulus High School modern dance team high-stepped to the New Year recently at the winter dance recital. The recitals are organized periodically by students who have studied dance at the high school or privately. Students, Briana Shreve, Victoria Newell, Ammie Gordon, Briea Harvey, Sequioa Harvey, Aisla Moore, Faith Austin and Rina Nolan take time to pose for a photograph during a break in the performance.

Fur flies in city dispute with kennel

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A couple that breeds German shepherds from a home on Huron River Drive said they are the victim or harassment by city officials and the planning commission.

Mark and Elizabeth Grasso – who moved to a home next door to their former place – said they are being asked to make improvements and apply for a business license to operate a business they have engaged in without incident for the past 12

years. They said the demands the city is placing on them have cost them \$30,000 in legal and permit fees, and that a resolution is nowhere in sight 15 months after the dispute began.

“If you look around Romulus, they always talk about bringing jobs here,” said Mark Grasso. “But it’s easy to see why there are no jobs in Romulus if you look at the planning commission. They’ve made this more difficult than it had to be.”

The trouble began when an ordinance officer began visiting

the couple to see if they were in compliance with city regulations, Elizabeth Grasso said.

“They (ordinance officers) said they didn’t know we were here, and that’s not true,” she said. “They want us to make all sorts of improvements we don’t need to make. We have no problem working with them, but it costs us every single time we have to re-do our site plan, and they’ve forced us to re-do it several times.”

The improvements include

See **Dogfight**, page 3

Mayor prepares annual speech

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Development, the prospect of operating casinos and a horse racing track and the grand opening of the new city recreation center are topics that are expected to loom large during the yearly State of the City address.

Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert will give the required address to attendees of the Romulus Chamber of Commerce monthly business luncheon Jan. 16. He said his speech would inform residents and other interested parties about city progress on several fronts.

“We have quite a few good things to report this year,” he said. “We have balanced our budget without layoffs. We’re moving ahead with several business and residential projects that will help not only the city, but entire region.”

The city charter requires the mayor to give the State of the City address – which follows the format of the State of the Union address – once a year to keep residents informed about what’s happening in local government. Lambert always takes the podium in January, and in the past has used the forum to announce new projects.

In 2005, the plan to fund the

See **Speech**, page 3

Taxes, development top 2007 city council goals

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Lowering taxes and finding financial solutions for difficult budgetary issues will lead the Romulus City Council legislative agenda in 2007.

Council President Randolph Gear said lowering taxes to help attract more businesses and residents to the community and balancing the 2007-08 general fund budget amid a \$1 billion statewide deficit will be the clouds that hang over the city for most of this year.

“I think as a city so far we’ve done a good job of making sure our budget is balanced and our level of services are held intact,” he said. “We’ve done better than most municipalities in that regard. But we need to find ways to lower taxes on residents – what I’m hearing from residents, especially in some of the new subdivisions, is that they are having a hard time paying the taxes and their mortgages, and that’s not good.”

The city levies relatively few mills – less than 10 – for property taxes. But the Romulus

Community Schools levies considerably more – which can hit residents hard in the pocketbook. Voters, however, approved the current tax rate at the polls several years ago.

Revenue from the proposed casino – which could reach \$10 million – could help stave off that any tax hike. An agreement between the schools and the city to give relief to the taxpayers would have to be signed by both governmental entities, however.

The casino – which voters approved to pursue in 2004 – has

not yet come to fruition and is behind schedule, Gear said. He added that he believes all necessary agreements at the federal and state level will be worked out in 2007.

“All I can say is that I’m hopeful that will be the case,” he said. “We need the revenue, and the jobs. We’re having a hard time. In Washington DC there are forces that don’t want us to have a casino or a racetrack – but I think we’ll get there.”

See **2007**, page 3

Arbitrator's ruling settles police contract with city

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

An arbitrator has issued a ruling in the Romulus Command Officer's Association (ROCA) labor dispute with the City of Romulus.

According to the ruling, command officers will receive a 3 percent pay differential between patrolman and sergeants, up to 17 percent from 14 percent.

Because sergeants received a raise, lieutenants will also receive a 3 percent increase.

The ROCA represents lieutenants and sergeants, who earn about \$59,000 and \$65,000 per year, respectively. The pay differential will be put into place after the city council meeting Jan. 8.

Officers will pay more for health insurance — prescription co-pays will be doubled from \$10 to \$20, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield co-pays will triple from \$100 to \$300.

Sgt. Gregg Brandemihl, the outgoing president of the command officer's union, said the 4-year-contract was a best-case scenario for the city and the union.

"We were concerned about some of the things that we were

*We were concerned about some of the things
we were being asked for, but overall,
I think it's a good contract.*

Sgt. Gregg Brandemihl

being asked for, but overall, I think it's a good contract," he said.

The ROCA — which has 12 members — has worked without a contract for about 2 years. The former labor agreement expired in 2004, and officers and the city were unable to come to an agreement about wage differentials, insurance co-pays and cost of living increases for the retirement system.

The pay differential between the patrolman and sergeants was by far the biggest issue that needed to be resolved, Brandemihl said, and by that measuring stick, the contract is a good one for officers, he added.

Other changes, however, are not viewed as positively by the unions, Brandemihl said.

The city was awarded the ability to change the way promotions are handled. Previously, promotions were solely based on a series

of tests and assessments of a candidate's work performance — and the applicant with the top score on a written exam and oral interview, combined with their work achievements, was promoted.

Under the new contract, the police chief will be given discretion to choose one of the top three scorers.

Brandemihl, who is retiring from his union post, said that although that's not an uncommon provision, he is concerned.

"That opens the door for a candidate who may be good command officer to be passed over for a candidate whose politics are more in line with the administration," he said. "I was very concerned about that."

Denied was a request by the union for a cost of living increase (COLA) for the city police pension system, which is under the aus-

pices of the Michigan Employees' Retirement System, or MERS.

Mayor Alan Lambert said the city cannot afford the increase at this time.

"I think the arbitrator understood that we just couldn't do it right now," he said. "I'm not totally against the idea of a COLA, but we can't do it right now."

A mediation session between the union and the city was also unsuccessful, and both sides agreed to meet with an arbitrator late last year. The arbitrator's ruling is binding for all parties, according to Michigan law, which specifies that police and fire unions must go to arbitration if they cannot reach contract agreement.

Once the new contract is put into place, pay raises will be retroactive.

The city will now begin contract negotiations with the 50-member patrol officers union. The patrol contract expired on June 30, 2006. The officers have worked under the last agreement for 5 months.

The patrol union represents patrol officers, detectives and dispatchers. New patrol officers are hired in at about \$50,000, and more

experienced patrol officers reach a maximum salary of \$56,000 after 5 years. Dispatchers are hired in at \$37,000 per year and the top wage for them 8 years later is \$41,000, according to the present contract.

CANTON CINEMA
Goodrich
QUALITY
THEATERS

www.GQTI.com
734-844-FILM
Ford Rd.
1 Mile West of IKEA

**DETROIT'S BEST
MOVIE DEAL**
ALL LOUNGER SEATS
ALL DIGITAL SOUND
ALL STADIUM SEATING

**NEW
LOWER PRICES**
\$6.00 Adults Evening
\$3.00 Students, Late Show,
Adults Until 6 PM,
Kids, Seniors, &
[ALL SHOWS 4-6 PM]

No passes Free drink refills & 25¢ corn refills
SHOWTIMES VALID 1/4 - 1/11
() = FRI/SAT/SUN ONLY

HAPPY N'EVER AFTER (PG) (11:10) 1:10,
3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:10
WE ARE MARSHALL (PG)
(11:00) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) (11:55) 2:15,
4:35, 6:55, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:35
ROCKY BALBOA (PG) 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20,
9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) 12:35, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05,
9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:25
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13) (11:00)
1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:30
HAPPY FEET (PG) (11:40) 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00
FRI/SAT LS 11:20

**COUPON
FREE
20oz DRINK**
with \$2.50 purchase
of 46oz bag of butter popcorn
one per ad @ Canton Cinema Exp. 1/13/07 *C2*

College air conditioning program

A boom in the demand for engineers prompted educators at the western campus of the Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) to restyle the heating ventilation and air conditioning program.

The WCCCD program will now take students through several new endeavors such as refrigeration controls and recovery; air-conditioning for heating and ventilation and boiler operations.

"This is big in the job market," said Patrick McNally, president of the western campus. "If you check the want ads you always see ads for this because of the demand through commercial and residential."

The heating ventilation and air conditioning program provides an opportunity for students to develop their skills and

competencies for an entry-level position in related fields.

Potential careers include: air conditioning and refrigeration conditioning, heating technician, installer, stationary engineer, sheet metal technician, self-employed and sales and marketing engineer.

"The high demand for the job field pays usually about \$15-20 an hour to start and after you've been in the field an average of \$22-30 an hour, even \$30-60 with well-experienced people," said McNally.

College officials said the program offers certification in specific areas, as well as a one-year college certificate or an associate degree.

For more information, contact the school at (734) 699-7008.



Diane's Creative Cake & Candy Supply

Merken Chocolate
Cake & Candy Supplies
Custom Wedding Cakes
Cake Pans &
Equipment Rental
Special Order
Cakes for all Occasions

41019 E. Huron River Dr.
Corner of Haggerty • Located in Belleville
Store Hours: T-F 10am-6pm • Sat 10am-3pm
(734)697-3337

We Are Still Here! Under New Ownership

STRONG CD rate with an even stronger GUARANTEE.

Looking for a secure place to grow your money? Get a guaranteed yield with a fixed rate CD from State Farm Bank.® For information, call me today.



Kevin Hetmaker
State Farm Agent
39536 Michigan Avenue
Wayne, MI 48184-1045
Bus: 734-641-2886



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.®



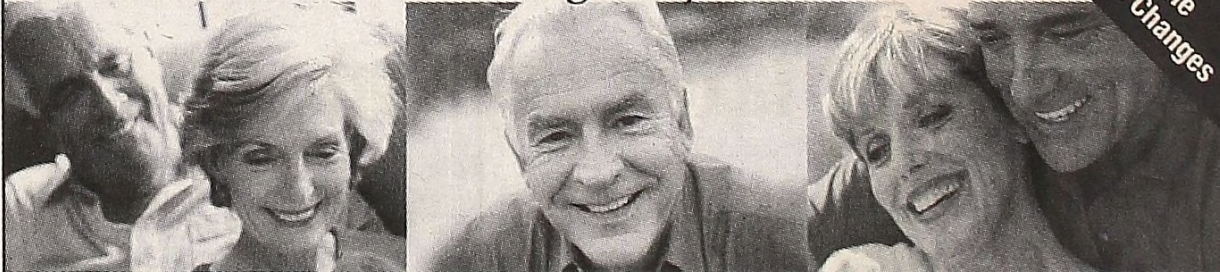
*Annual Percentage Yields as of 01/03/07, rates subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open an account and obtain the stated APY is \$500. A penalty may be imposed for a withdrawal prior to maturity. Certificates automatically renew at maturity at the then current rate for the same term. Some products and services not available in all areas.

P051011

State Farm Bank • Home Office: Bloomington, IL • statefarm.com®

01/05

Have You Heard The Three Big Lies About Medicaid Eligibility?



Get Updates on the
New Medicaid Rule Changes

Lie #1: The new law has made it impossible to protect your assets from nursing home costs.
Truth: While the rules have changed, good planning opportunities exist.

Lie #2: Medicaid can take your home.
Truth: They don't want to, and they can't, unless your house has equity of more than \$500,000.

Lie #3: If you're already in a nursing home, there is nothing you can do to protect your assets.

Truth: Even if you're in a nursing home, you may still have opportunities to protect the assets you have.

**Law Offices of Cook, Kennedy
& Associates, PLLC**

Licensed in Michigan & Ohio.

**Do not miss this FREE seminar!
Two Days Only, Seating is Limited.**

Tuesday, January 16, 2007
10:00am-12:00pm
Holiday Inn Express
46194 N I 94 Service Drive
Belleville

Thursday, January 18, 2007
6:00pm-8:00pm
Holiday Inn Express
46194 N I 94 Service Drive
Belleville

Refreshments Served

**Reserve your space today.
Call: 1-877-483-7013**

2007

FROM PAGE 1

The prospect of jobs – and the exit of thousands of autoworkers who accepted buyouts from the Big Three last year – is also something the council must consider in 2007.

“If people can’t pay their bills or their mortgage, and they have to sell their homes here, that could put us in a difficult situation,” he said.

Gear said a dwindling residential base could derail city efforts to attract more businesses.

“The more residents you have, the more attractive you are to business,” he said. “That all goes back to the tax question.”

Councilman William Crova said that taxes are a concern for the council but that attracting more business as the focus for 2007.

“We still need to find ways to bring more business here,” he said. “It’s an exceptionally difficult time for our state, and the city needs to get more businesses in here if we expect to keep the level of services where they’re at in the future.”

In addition to the casino and racetrack, commercial development efforts are also being sought along Merriman Road, where some older buildings are being demolished. Also looming is the Metro World project – a primarily retail project near the Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

All in all, the both Gear and Crova said the city financial staff deserves high marks for maintaining fiscal equilibrium and avoiding layoffs.

Gear said preliminary information indicates that cuts will have to be made for 2007-08, but that those will likely be minimal.

Mayor Alan Lambert’s administration as appealed to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to expedite the casino applications.

Budget sessions at the city level will begin this spring, and the process must be complete by the end of the 2006-07 fiscal year on June 30.



Way to go!

The Romulus Flyers, a community-based football team for middle-school aged boys and girls, was recently honored by the Romulus City Council for having a championship season. The children – who are mentored by parents and community volunteers – posed with council members after they received certificates for their achievements. The Flyers are not affiliated with any school, and are sponsored by the Romulus Recreation Department.

Dogfight - City says couple needs to provide information

FROM PAGE 1

various physical changes, like providing better parking. Elizabeth Grasso, who would not say how many dogs she has at the home, did say her business has undergone several inspections through the American Breeders Association, which has strict rules to make sure dogs are safe and cared for. But she said the city never showed any interest in her business.

“We were told that there were complaints about the dogs, but we filed a Freedom of Information request to see who was complaining about us, and we never received any answer. If there truly are complaints, we have a right to know who they are.”

City Planner Cynthia Lyons said the genesis of the problem is that after the Grassos moved, they constructed large kennels without a permit to do so on land that is zoned solely for residential use.

“They have not operated in that location for 12 years, and when we found out about the kennels, we tried to work with them,” she said. “To run a business like that, they would have to go through the special land

use process. There would be a public hearing so residents within a 300-foot radius would be able to speak about the business. The city council would then take all of that into consideration before granting the application.”

The Grassos have not supplied enough information about some basic aspects of the busi-

“
A business in that area would affect the quality of life for the neighbors, and we need the information before we can proceed.

Cynthia Lyons

ness – like how many dogs would be on site, and how they would be cared for, and if there would be sufficient parking.

“We spoke with them and their lawyer, and they said they would be able to provide all of that information,” Lyons said. “But they have not, and we can’t pass it along to the city council until we have enough informa-

tion. A business in that area would affect the quality of life for the neighbors, and we need the information before we can proceed.”

Mayor Alan Lambert said he knows fees and costs associated with having a small business can be difficult to deal with, but he denies they are prohibitive.

Both Lyons and the Grassos agree that a lot of time has been devoted to the issue.

Lyons could not speak to whether complaints were received by the city about the kennels, and said her office has not received a Freedom of Information request. She did say its possible the city legal staff may have those requests.

Elizabeth Grasso said the fight with the city has been difficult to deal with, and that the family is considering a lawsuit.

“Both of my parents died during all of this, and they wouldn’t leave this be,” she said.

Lyons said the city has not threatened to shut the kennel down, and hopes an agreement can be reached in the matter.

“We recognize that (the Grassos) have a small business and enjoy it, and we still feel we can bring this to a satisfactory conclusion,” she said.

Speech - Development is a big topic for upcoming year

FROM PAGE 1

reconstruction of the old Overhead Crane industrial building into a new recreation center using Tax Increment Financing Authority funds was unveiled during the address.

Lambert said his speech this year will not contain the announcement of any new developments, but will provide updates on projects already under way or slated to be under

way soon.

Officials in the city are hoping for a busy 2007. The new recreation facility, which is under renovation at Wayne and Northline roads, is expected to open this spring. There is also a hope that state and federal approvals for a casino to be owned and managed by the Hannahville Indian Tribe of Petosky, will be forthcoming so construction can begin on that facility.

The State of the City will take

place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., and Lambert’s address will begin at noon.

The cost to attend the event is \$15 per person for chamber members, and \$18 for non-members.

The Crown Plaza Hotel is located at 8000 Merriman Road in Romulus.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call the chamber at (734) 893-0694.



Mayor Alan Lambert

News in brief

Chamber plans wine tasting event

The eighth annual Silent Auction and Wine Tasting Dinner will return Feb. 9.

The event is one of the most popular and successful events sponsored by the Romulus Chamber of Commerce of commerce, according to a spokesman, and is expected to attract a large crowd at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott Hotel.

Local businesses and chamber members have donated items to be purchased at the silent auction, and all of the proceeds generated will fund year-long chamber activities.

Chamber activities include educational seminars for business people and helping to identify ways for businesses to be successful in the community.

Tickets are still available and can be purchased at the chamber office. For more information or cost for the evening, call the chamber at (734) 893-0694.

Seniors can get help with Medicare D

Seniors who need help finding out which aspects of the new Medicare D program would benefit them most should stop by the Romulus Senior Center for assistance.

Linda Peak, a case manager for the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, will be at the Senior Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month to assist senior citizens in signing up for Medicare Plan D.

Seniors will have the opportunity to have their questions about the program answered, and will be offered assistance in completing the necessary paperwork.

Seniors are asked to bring their Social Security and Medicare cards, a list of medications, proof of income, and any paperwork they have received about Plan D or the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program from the government.

The Romulus Senior Center is located at 11189 Shook Road.

For more information, call the Romulus Senior Center at (734) 955-4120.

To publish events in the Romulus Roman, contact staff writer Molly Tippen by phone at (734) 467-1900 ex. 228, or by e-mail at mtippen@journalgroup.com.

OPINION

Advice for the New Year

As the New Year dawns, we're sure that politicians everywhere have an idea of what they want to accomplish during the coming year.

At least we hope that's the case, because planning ahead should be their top single goal.

Here are a few things we'd like to see addressed, or taken into account:

Belleville

In Belleville, the search for a new city manager is inevitable. Steve Walters is retiring and someone with a great deal of financial acumen will be necessary to take his spot. We have a request, too, in that someone more approachable be given consideration. Walters is a brilliant man, but he was a tough guy to translate.

Inkster

While Inkster has shown remarkable progress on many fronts this year, the fallout of the divisive revision of the city charter must end. Officials and community activists alike need to accept the vote of the people and move forward. There is no room or time for recriminations or grudges and those with the best interests of the city in mind will accept the outcome and continue to move the city forward.

Romulus

City officials are rejoicing that the deep injection waste wells on Citrin Road are closed. The same officials believe that the Detroit Police and Fire Pension Fund – the main investor in the project – will not be able to find an operator for the well. We believe – despite how angry it would make officials and residents – that the wells will be operating again by this time in 2007. The battle was essentially lost when the well operators were invited into the city, and whatever the consequences are now, officials and residents are going to have to accept the fact that these wells exist and find a way to live with them, safely.

Wayne

In Wayne, many of the challenges the city will face will be budgetary. The city administration and staff will have to look hard and deep to preserve services and programs without making too many cuts, but it's also important to start planning for a rainy day. The unreserved fund balance has long been too low for comfort—and we're sure they would agree with that. The problem is, how to bolster that fund without further cuts? This will be among the more difficult choices that will be made during the upcoming budget sessions.

We'd also like to see the city take a fresh look at the master plan. It's a concept that comes up during an average campaign season. The document is a bit out of date and the rationalization for that has been that proposed land uses haven't changed. Perhaps its time to look and see if they should change and get a new plan in place, too.

Westland

Westland officials will have their hands full this year as many transition to new positions and they deal with carryover issues from last year. Among those are what can and should be done at Central City Park and how to push along the Cooper School redevelopment project.

We'd also like to see a push for additional redevelopment opportunities along Wayne Road—perhaps through the Downtown Development Authority—that can concentrate on the momentum building there.

Regional

The State of Michigan is facing some serious issues that stem from a lackluster economy. We've been called a single state recession and some

See 2007, page 5



2007: Challenge and opportunity

The beginning of a New Year is a special time.

The holidays are behind us and we've all recuperated enough to call ourselves refreshed. The very air is pregnant with possibilities as everyone tries to get off on a good foot and push for improvement in their lives, professionally and personally. It's a time of year untainted with cynicism, when optimism instead is the bumper crop.

It's a blank slate.

When I look ahead to 2007 I see two main things: challenges and opportunities.

The City of Wayne will face some difficulties, you don't really need a crystal ball to see that. Soon, city council members will get together in goal setting sessions that will lead into study sessions and budget negotiations as they try to plan for the coming year, and beyond. Everyone involved in the process remembers last year; this year has the potential to be just as bad, if not worse. I have the impression that a lot of feelings were hurt, a lot of negative seeds were sown. They will all have to work together to get through this and plan for the betterment of the community.

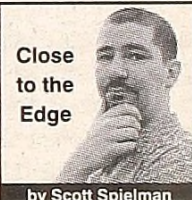
There's potential, too, though. The downtown area will have a new look by the time everything is said in done in 2007. Decorative streetlights are being installed along Elizabeth Street as I write this, they'll be joined by additional ones further west on

Michigan Avenue as the main road through our town gets a major makeover. Within two weeks we'll know the disposition of the property that once housed the Nankin Hospital, as a hearing on the tax-reverted property is imminent. Should that property fall into Wayne County's possession, the city should open its purse strings and snap it up—as long as they pledge not to build another parking lot there.

The reconstruction of Michigan Avenue will help spur along changes suggested in the Andrews University plan, too. And help is needed there to get the practical parts of that going. Nobody would deny that there's been progress in the city, but that progress has been slow. We need a major catalyst to start turning things around and speeding them up; perhaps this will be it.

I have a sincere hope for the 2007 election season, too. I'd like to see some new faces thrown into the mix—not because I have anything against those serving now, I'd just like to see more interest. Who knows, with the difficulties seen during the last budget cycle, with a request for a new road millage out there, perhaps we'll see an influx of additional people concerned about our town.

No matter what happens, though, 2007 promises to be an interesting year here in the city. Let's all work together to make it a good one.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

An indispensable gift to all

The season may have just passed, but it's not too late for one of the most important gifts we can give.

I say that we should think about giving ourselves a gift that is nearly indispensable during the holiday season and every one that comes after that – information.

The support for a federal media shield law – led by Sen. Arlen Specter (R- PA) – has languished in Congress since 2004, and there are quite a few reasons for that.

For those who may not know what federal media shield is, here's an overview. Reporters in the print and television media in some cases have to use anonymous sources to procure vital information that the public needs to know.

Shield laws prevent the government from forcing or jailing reporters who protect those people that risk providing information by not identifying them in court.

Most of the time, a reporter can break a story with that information, and often times, the information can be confirmed through other sources for attribution – which means the fact that an anonymous individual tipped the media will not appear in the news-

paper.

In other cases, government documents are cited – and the original source of those materials has to be protected.

In situations in which the state has jurisdiction – like local lawsuits and the like – reporters don't have to worry about the specter of jail because state shield laws are very sufficient. We're lucky to live in Michigan, which has some of the best shield laws in the United States.

But as it stands now, if a story in a newspaper or on TV leads to an investigation by the feds, a reporter can be subpoenaed under the guise of finding the lawbreakers. This not only puts the reporter on front street, it also threatens the source – which is usually a person who tried to do the right thing by helping to expose wrongdoing.

When I've told people about the lack of federal shield laws, they act surprised. I've often wondered, what is there to be surprised about?

The people that are often the subject of negative



Sad but True

by Molly Tippen

JOURNAL
NEWSPAPERS

The Northville Journal • The Plymouth Journal
Publications of Willow Media, L.L.C.

The Canton Eagle • The Belleville Enterprise • The Inkster Ledger Star
The Romulus Roman • The Wayne Eagle • The Westland Eagle

David J. Willett
President

Susan Willett
Publisher

Douglas Willett
General Manager

Sean Rhaesa
Art Director

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Journal Newspapers are published Thursdays
at 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan, 48184.
Central office hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Phone 734-467-1900

for general business, advertising or editorial information.

See Gift, page 5

2007

Letters

FROM PAGE 5

pundits have used the word depression. The economy is shifting as the Big Three automakers—on which our entire economy, essentially, is based—adjust to a new global market.

Obviously, some work needs to be done with replacing the Single Business Tax. We were concerned that this was eliminated before a new plan was put into place all along, and it seems like our concerns were justified. Some fair tax has to be put into place that doesn't land on the backs of citizens, many of whom are laboring under stagnant or reduced revenue streams of their own.

Perhaps more important than a business-friendly tax system, though, is a business—or consumer—friendly Health Care system. Anyone complaining about the current economy—whether it be the automakers themselves, municipalities or other firms—usually puts the increasing cost of health care at the top of the list to explain their woes. Rates are going up dramatically, fewer and fewer people are insured and those that are have to pay more for it. It's reaching a critical mass. Might a solution to this issue help everyone who is overburdened by the cost of this white elephant? We think so. It could prove as great an economic stimulus as a revised tax structure, particularly in the small business sector, which makes up the bulk of the local economies.

The issues are plentiful, both at home and state wide. The beginning of a new year, though, is a time when we can all set our sites on these challenges and work cooperatively to solve them. It won't be easy, but the good things never are.

School official says thanks

To the editor:

Thank you for publicizing our pancake supper on Dec. 12. We raised nearly \$1,000 for our Building Technology Fund. It is the efforts of the school, the family and the community that make the educational experiences of our students successful.

Andrew Lindsay,
South Middle School
Belleville

Gift

Send us your letters

FROM PAGE 5

reporting – lawmakers – are the ones that are determining whether such a law is warranted.

The arguments against federal media shield laws are that they give reporters a free pass to break the law.

But we're only reporting the actions of others, which should be encouraged. At stake are public funds, public policy, and equal treatment under the law – everything that comprises a democracy.

At last count, there are about 11 reporters facing jail for refusing to turn over their sources to the government. Though some of these sources may not be pillars of the community, we, as journalists, have to agree to protect them if they shared off the record information.

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184. All letters will be considered for publication and may be edited for content, space and length.

The benefit shield laws would give the public is knowing more about where money is being spent and how policies will affect people or populations. The benefit is not in making the government cow tow to the media, it's about making it accountable to the people.

Call your congressman to let them know you're in favor of federal media shield laws.

Ask them to give you the gift of more information this year.

"Featured Engagement"



Corinna & Bill
Engagement

...Celebrate Your Engagement with a Portrait Sitting.

Michael Reynolds Photography

192 Liberty St., Plymouth • 734-254-9531

Franklin Homes at Van Buren Estates

16800 Lohr Rd. • Belleville, MI 48111 • www.franklinhomesales.com

Available Homes call Sara Nelson at 734-697-4655

**No Payments For 3 Months!* See Franklin Homes for Details.*



19 Birch*, 2000 Dutch, 28x64 4 bdrm/2 bath.
Only \$39,000



8 Birch*, 1996 Holly Park, 3 bdrm/2 bath.
Only \$13,900.



15 Maple*, 1998 Fleetwood, 3bdrm/2bath.
***Price Reduced* Only \$26,900**



24 Ash*, 1988 Victorian, 2 bdrm/2 bath, shed.
***Price Reduced* Only \$12,000**



54 Maple*, 1998 Redman, 3 bdrm/2 bath.
***Price Reduced* Only \$19,900**



24 Birch*, 99 Fairmont 3 bdrm/2 bath.
***Price Reduced* Only \$26,900**



9 Locust*, 1970 Price, 2 bdrm/ 1.5 bath.
***Price Reduced* Only \$6,900**

Attention Van Buren Residents!

Need Holiday Cash?

Refer someone to Franklin Homes and we will pay you \$500 when they close on their home

SPORTS

Whalers douse Spitfires; are capsized by Storm

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

A hot December put the Plymouth Whalers at the top of the Western Division of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), but their reign in the top spot was short-lived.

The Guelph Storm received shootout goals from rookies Tyler Melancon and Anthony Nigro Saturday night to rally from a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Whalers, 3-2. The loss, coupled with a Saginaw win over Kitchener, knocked the Whalers from their pedestal down to second place in the West Division. Plymouth, 23-10-1-2, is one point behind the Spirit (24-12-0-2).

The Whalers raced to a 2-0 lead in the first period on goals by Andrew Fournier and Evan Brophey. Chris Terry assisted on both goals. It was only their second loss in 19 games. Before that, the Whalers were riding a 15-1-1-1 streak. The Whaler's last loss in regulation was against Kingston on Nov. 18. Plymouth lost to Berrie in a shootout on Dec. 9.

Plymouth extinguished a not-so-hot Windsor Spitfire team, 6-1, at home on Thursday to grab the top spot in the West Division.

The victory was a belated Christmas gift to the sold-out crowd consisting of children mostly for the Whaler's annual Kid's Day event.

It was Joe McCann, from A.J. Jenks, who scored what would be the eventual winner at 10:59 of the second. His shot whizzed past Windsor goalie Andrew Engelage, top

shelf.

Windsor's Kevin Hudes opened the scoring in the second period. He flipped one by Plymouth net-minder Michal Neuvirth at the 3:58 mark. Mickey Renaud and Mike Weber earned assists on the play.

Almost four minutes later John Armstrong retaliated with a tip-in from Dan Collins. Defender Frank Grzeszczak recorded an assist on the tying goal, too.

McCann's goal led to four unanswered goals in the third frame—two on power play attempts. Tom Sestito started the flurry with a power-play goal at the 5:36. Collins and Evan Brophey contributed. Sestito leads the team with 23 goals.

Exactly one minute later Ryan McGinnis scored the team's other man-advantage mark. Chris Terry assisted. Steve Ward, from Brophey, made it 5-1 at 14:23 and Joe Gaynor—the team's sixth goal scorer of the night—finished off the rout with help from McCann and McGinnis.

Plymouth peppered Engelage with 46 shots while Neuvirth only saw 19.

The Whalers lead the OHL in team defense, only giving up 94 goals in 35 games. Against Windsor they shut out the Spitfires in eight power play attempts, including a 3-on-2 in the second period where they only gave up two shots.

Plymouth traveled to Owen Sound on New Year's Day but the results were unavailable at press time.

See Whalers, page 7

Wildcats fall to Foley

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Wildcats are off to a shaky start on the hardwood this season.

They've lost three of their first four games, including one to Madison Height Bishop Foley on Thursday—the opening day of the Wildcat Holiday Tournament.

Plymouth scored the first four points against the Ventures, but trailed the rest of the way, leading to a 48-50 loss.

The Wildcats put up a good fight in the final frame. They trailed by as many as 14 in the final eight minutes but battled back to within two with a chance to tie or win at the buzzer.

Junior guard Brandon Roberts was a big part of the Wildcats' effort. He scored 11 of his game-leading 17 points in the fourth quarter including two triples to keep the team in contention. Junior guard Andy Price hit a triple with about 12 seconds left to play, bringing the 'Cats within five, 50-45. Myron Puryear drained a triple



Plymouth senior guard Austin Barnett tries to get by Foley defender Clifton Powell in last Thursday's loss. Plymouth bounced back to beat Riverside Windsor Ontario High School on Friday.

with a second left to bring Plymouth within two, 50-48. The Wildcats had a chance but didn't intercept Foley's inbound pass.

Puryear finished with 10 on the night.

Plymouth trailed, 13-7, after one quarter and brought it to within four, 15-19, in the second before heading to

See Wildcats, page 7

Franklin Homes at Belleville Manor

8701 Belleville Rd. • Belleville, MI 48111 • www.franklinhomesales.com



Available Homes call Belinda at 734-697-5801

**No Payments For 3 Months!* See Franklin Homes For Details.*

Financing
is Available

Our homes
are going
FAST!!

Stop
in Today!



215 Sugarbush* Beautiful Home, 1992 Victorian
2 bdrm/2 bath, fireplace, shed, deck and appl. Only \$18,900



347 Ivy Drive* Plenty of Storage, 1988 Walden,
28x60, 3 bdrm/2 bath. Only \$32,000



306 Holly* Corner Lot, 3 bdrm/2 bath, 1987
Fairmont with appliances. Only \$27,000



162 Ponderosa Trail South* Spacious Floor Plan,
3 bdrm/2bath, 1995 Fleetwood, 28x48 with appliances
Only \$34,000

Available
Soon

123 Ponderosa Trail South
2006 Fleetwood 28x46
3 bdrm/2 bath
Price Pending

76 Ponderosa Trail North
1991 Patriot 14x70
2 bdrm/1 bath
Price Pending

116 Peachtree
1982 Redman 24x52
2 bdrm/2 bath,
Appliances Included
Only \$24,000

120 Ponderosa Trail North
1993 Champion 16x66
3bdrm/2 bath
Appliances Included
Only \$15,000

Attention Belleville Manor Residents Do You Need Cash To Pay Off Your Holidays?
Refer someone to Franklin Homes and we will pay you \$500 when they close on their home



Chris Terry works his way through Windsor's fallen defense last Thursday. He earned an assist against Windsor. The Whalers won the contest 6-2, scoring four goals in the final period for the win.

Whalers

FROM PAGE 6

Plymouth heads to London, Ontario at 7:30 pm on Friday, Jan. 5 and host Saginaw at 7:05 pm on Saturday, Jan. 6 and face the Spitfires in Windsor at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 7.

Wildcats

FROM PAGE 6

the locker room behind, 22-17.

The 'Cats made up the difference by scoring the first five points in the third. Puryear split a pair from the line followed by pairs by Roberts and junior forward Mike Hanchette. The rest of the half belonged to Foley. The Ventures went on a 13-2 run to finished the half with a 35-24 advantage. Junior guard Clifton Powell sparked the jaunt with a triple at about the six-minute mark.

That set up the streaky fourth for Plymouth.

Junior guard Chris Sinagoga led Foley with 12 and Powell finished with 10.

"The key was not making layups and giving up too many rebounds with our size advantage and finally our turnovers were mostly unforced," said Plymouth Coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We had not played Foley before and they won 22 ball games last year and play very hard."

Foley lost to state champ Saginaw Buena Vista in the Class C quarterfinals last year.

The Wildcats redeemed themselves with a 61-40 victory over Riverside Windsor Ontario on Friday.

The win boosted the 'Cats record to 2-3.

Puryear was the difference maker in the second game of the Holiday Tournament. He scored 29 points with five triples, according to Van Wagoner. He also had eight rebounds. Roberts added 11 points with five assists and Hager had 10 points.

Jason Gander led Riverside with 15 and Ryan Robinet 13.

Van Wagoner hopes the solid crew coming back, although still young, can improve on last season's record.

"We were 8-13 last year with lots of close but missed opportunities," he said in an earlier interview. "This year we have kept 15 players and are waiting on a separation of talent and there are those that can do that."

So far, Puryear has separated himself from the pack. He scored a combined 39 points in the two holiday games last week.

He's just one of the many Plymouth juniors back in action this year.

The rest of the group includes Roberts at point; Jake Hager (6-7); a 6-foot-3 Navraj Sandhu, who could emerge as a big scorer; Dan Jeong; David Harvey; Chris Daniels; a 6-3 Mike Hanchett; Alex Hays; Andy Price; and Garrett Rebain.

Plymouth only has four seniors—Kulraj Sandhu at 6-3, Nick Boyd (6-4), Wes Shelton (6-6) and 6-foot Austin Barnett—back for their final campaigns, according to Van Wagoner.

However, the season won't get any easier for Plymouth either.

The entire West Division should be strong again. Northville went 20-0 last year. Cross-campus rival Canton, although 0-4, are experienced, big and good. Wayne is much improved this year while Franklin and Walled lake Western are never easy opponents.

"There are no nights off but anything is possible," Van Wagoner said. "We will earn everything we accomplish."

Plymouth's next game is against cross-campus rival Salem at home at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. The team's first division game is against its other campus foe, Canton, at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16 on the Chiefs' floor.

More sports

Romulus Holiday Tournament

Belleville was only one of the two Mega teams to win at the Romulus Holiday Tournament on Saturday. The Tigers won 54-49 and were led by Brian Zantop with 10 points. Tremaine Butler scored 30 for Mackenzie.

Dearborn Heights Robichaud defeated Northwestern, 53-51, in the final seconds off of an Aaron Crump jumper. Crump finished with 14 points.

Renty Rollins led the **Inkster** Vikings with 18 points in the 68-49 loss to Cody. Demetrius led Cody with 18.

The **Romulus** Eagles struggled against Pershing, 68-40. Larry Nixon and Christian Hill each scored 15 for Pershing. Devin Searcy led Romulus with eight.

Belleville Tax & Accounting Service, Inc.

formerly Stoner & Associates
Tax and Accounting Experts You Can Trust



Denise Wilmarth, MSA, CPA Business & Tax Accountant
Gayl Parr, CPA Business & Tax Accountant

Providing Services to Small Business and Individuals

- Small Business Accounting
- Payroll Services
- Small Business Advising and Start-Up Consultation
- Monthly Financial Statements
- Quickbooks Training and Support
- Business and Personal Tax Returns

All major credit cards accepted
Discover Visa MasterCard

Call Us Today!
(734) 697-8000

152 Main Street
(in The Professional Building)
Belleville, MI 48111



LEGACY LAW CENTER
BERTRAM McCARTHY, PLLC
MEDICAID, ESTATE PLANNING, ELDER LAW

FREE
Initial
Consultation

Reason #5 To Make An Estate Plan Your daughter, Victoria

- At age 45, is on her third husband
- Has a charge account at every clothing store in town
- Takes riding lessons, yoga classes, and has a personal trainer
- Wears shoes that cost \$400
- Calls everyone, including you, her parents, "dau-ling"

Are you sure you want *all your life's work* to her?
No strings attached?

Call our law offices today!
734-995-2383
www.legacypllc.com



Top \$\$\$\$ Paid

For Junk, Disabled or Wrecked Cars

Drive it in or we'll pick it up!

CTS AUTO PARTS

16007 Pardee, Taylor
(Just North of Wm F. Sell)
(734) **282-1700**

THE SCENE

Night at the Museum

Performances, special effects are flawless in film

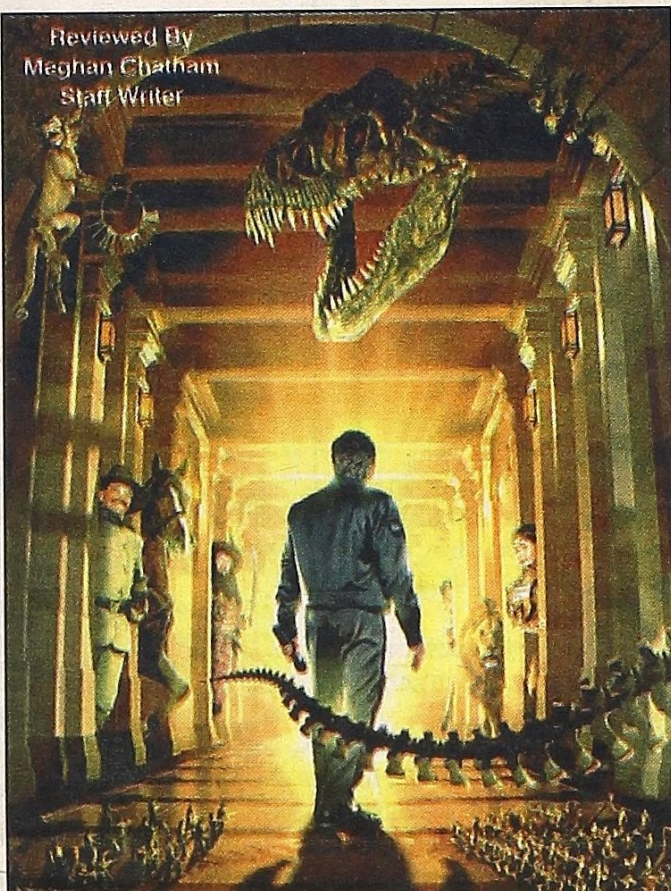
For anyone who ever traipsed through a museum and wondered, 'what if,' *Night at the Museum* is a must-see film.

From the outside, the New York-area Museum of Natural History seems like any other such facility, filled with dinosaur bones, stuffed safari animals, and dioramas depicting historical activities like the building of the pyramids. Inside, it appears to be headed the way of the dinosaurs as only a trickle of customers—many of them bored school children—stop by.

It's a less-than-thrilling setting, but for long-time screw-up Larry Daley (Stiller), it's his last hope. After years of waiting for his various schemes like the Snap-On, which was undermined by the Clap-On system, to succeed, he's in trouble. He has no real job, eviction is a constant threat, and his beloved son is ashamed of him. Something has to give, so when the possibility of becoming the nighttime security guard at the museum is offered, he leaps at the opportunity.

As the three retiring security guards (Dick Van Dyke, Mickey Rooney, and Bill Cobbs) he's replacing are leaving, they give Larry the keys, a flashlight, and a manual that will tell him exactly what to do and what order to do it in. He never gets a chance to read more than a few lines—"lock up the lions or they will eat you"—because instead of the quiet rounds he expected, the museum erupts into chaos as magic surrounding an ancient Egyptian tablet brings the displays to life at sundown.

A playful tyrannosaurus rex roams the hallways, miniatures from the Old West and Roman Empire dioramas are waging war in a territory dispute, and Attila the Hun and his gang of thugs are searching for their



Reviewed By
Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

next victim.

With the aid of Theodore Roosevelt (Robin Williams), Larry has to find a way to make order reign amid the anarchy or risk losing the newly reacquired respect of his son. For a man accustomed to giving up

when the going gets tough, that's quite a problem. Throw in a few very light romantic subplots and the end result is a lot of fun.

The special effects and mechanics of bringing the world of the inanimate to life aren't particularly splashy. Instead, it's almost seamless—it appears to be smooth, as if it were the natural order of things. Plus, the actions themselves couldn't be any goofier or more appealing had they been lifted directly from the mind of an imaginative child.

Ben Stiller does a great job of playing a character with a few more functioning brain cells than his usual roles. His timing is perfect, he actually acts rather than simply making faces, and he manages to not overdo the silliness. Talk about your breakthroughs!

Robin Williams and Owen Wilson, in an uncredited role as cowboy ringleader Jed, do a great job in adding to the comedy—probably because either of them could have carried the movie.

After so many years of watching Dick Van Dyke dance around the set of *Mary Poppins* as the amiable Bert, though, it may come as a shock to see the still jolly-looking Van Dyke in a darker role.

This is a remarkably well-made film with depth and jokes to suit all age levels. Even young children will enjoy the pratfalls, physical comedy, and the mad romps through the museum. The plot is strong enough to sustain older children and adults, but it is the humor that sets it apart.

Anyone searching for a fun family film should make sure that they add *Night at the Museum* to the list. Heck, I may even borrow a few children and go see it again. The film is rated PG.

MINUTES OFF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD DECEMBER 11, 2006, IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, William Crova, Randolph Gear, William Wadsworth.

Officials in Attendance:

Alan R. Lambent, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: -Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-408

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held December 4, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

3, Petitioner - withdrawn.

06-409

4A. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to concur with Legal Counsel and direct the Administration to proceed as recommended by Nancy Spiezza, Romulus Employee Pension Plan Attorney.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Crova, supported by Crout to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

5. ****Deleted****

06-410

6A1. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to adopt a resolution in support of Senate Bill #1289, a bill which amends MCL 333.1216, creating a governing board comprised of 12 members appointed by the Wayne County Commission to the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency (DWCCMHA). Send to Governor Granholm, Senator Basham and Representative Hopgood. Complete resolution on file in the Clerks office.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-411

11. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to authorize City Treasurer to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 06-23, in the grand total amount of Four Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand, Six Hundred Seventy Nine Dollars and Forty-Nine Cents (\$427,679.49).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Abstain - Crova

Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, City Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held December 11, 2006.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: January 4, 2007

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries	31. Help Wanted Sales	50. Pets & Supplies	64. Lawn & Garden Supplies	78. Hunting / Fishing	98. Mobile Homes for Rent	110. Lots for Sale
02. In Memoriam	32. Help Wanted Drivers	54. Rummage Sales	65. Tree Service	82. Wanted to Buy	99. Flats for Rent	111. Out of State Property
03. Cards of Thanks	33. Child Care	55. Estate Sales	66. Landscape / Nurseries	87. Room for Rent	100. Will Share	112. Commercial Lease
04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots	34. Specialized Services	56. Flea Markets	67. Garden Plant / Supplies	88. Duplexes for Rent	101. Wanted to Rent	113. Real Estate Wanted
05. Personals/Announcements	35. Situations Wanted	57. Antiques	68. Garden / Produce	89. Apartments for Rent	102. Storage	114. Auto Accessories
06. Legal Notices	40. Business Opportunity	58. Garage and Yard Sales	70. Masonry / Brickwork	90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent	103. Business Property for Sale	115. Autos for Sale
07. Attorneys	42. Health and Fitness	59. Auctions	72. Machinery Tools	92. Business Places for Rent	104. Farms & Acreage for Sale	116. Antique & Classic Cars
08. Entertainment	43. Money to Loan	60. Misc. Sales	73. Musical Merchandise	93. Banquet Halls	105. Mobile Homes for Sale	117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
09. Lost & Found	44. Music/Art Lessons	61. Misc. Items	74. Sporting Goods	94. Farm Land for Rent	106. Houses for Sale	118. Freebies
10. Coming Events	45. Adult Care	62. Building Supplies	75. Boats / Accessories	95. Real Estate	107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale	119. Auto Repairs
30. Help Wanted	46. Private Schools/Instruction	63. Business and Office Equipment	76. Remodeling & Renovations	96. Houses for Rent	108. Lake and Resort	120. Motorcycles
	47. Riding/Horses/Stables		77. Recreation Vehicles	97. Cottages for Rent	109. Income Property	121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries



HAMELL, James Curtis, Sr., 81, died Nov. 27, 2006. He is survived by 5 daughters, three sons, thirty-four grandchildren, seventy-five great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and one sister, Augusta Pruitt. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home, and were officiated by Rev. James Love. Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery.



KYSER, Michael Jerome, 46 of Inkster, MI, died Nov. 27, 2006. He is survived by his daughter Shinita Grady, granddaughter, Nar-Shae Thompson, father, Charles Kyser, step-mother, Claudia Kyser, grandfather, Alton Kyser, two brothers, Derrick and Chuckie, two sisters, Trina and Sonja, four nieces and one nephew. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home and were officiated by Rev. Arthur Willis, Sr. Interment was at Sunset Hills Cemetery.



MCKISSICK, Minnie Lee, 75 of Inkster, died Dec. 4, 2006. She is survived by five sons, two daughters, three sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law, five granddaughters, two grandsons and seven great-grandchildren. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home with Rev. Vincent Matthews officiating. Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery.

WALKER, Rev. David H., age 91 of Romulus, MI, died Thur., December 28, 2006. Rev. Walker was born on Feb. 8, 1915 in Hazlehurst, GA to Jesse S. and Lulu (Smith) Walker. Rev. Walker was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Ernest L. and Herman A. Walker; and sister, Etta Mae Mason. He is survived by his wife, Edna Mae (Atkins) Walker; sons, David H. (Barbara)

Walker, Jr. and Jonathan C. Walker; and daughters, Princess Anne Smith and Nell L. Walker; and four grandchildren. Rev. Walker received a certificate from Detroit Bible College in 1974. He was a member of the Romulus Beautification Committee and Romulus NAACP. He also volunteered at the Romulus Senior Center. He was Associate Minister at First Baptist Church. Ordained Minister-First Baptist Church of Inkster-1959. Member of the choir at First Baptist Church and UAW Member. Rev. Walker served with the United States Army during WWII from which he was honorably discharged. Services were held Jan. 2, 2007 and officiated by Rev. Charles P. Woolridge. Final arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home, Romulus, MI.



WALKER, Jeffie Mae, 66 of Inkster, MI, died Dec. 3, 2006. She is survived by four children, Melvin, Phyllis, Elwinn and Dyeneice; two loving sisters, one brother, two sisters-in-law, sixteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Services were held at Pentecostal Temple COGIC, with Bishop Isaac King, Jr. officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home. Interment was at Knollwood Memorial Park Cemetery.

YOUNG, Dorothy Louise, age 75 of Dayton, OH, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2006 at Heartland of Centerville Nursing Center. Dorothy was born July 9, 1931, in Inkster, MI, the daughter of William and Lenora Heska. She moved to Dayton in 1979 and purchased two International House of Pancake Restaurants. Dorothy retired in 1991 after over 30 years in the restaurant business. She is survived by her children, Robert and fiancée, Nancy of Mt. Clemens, MI,

2. In Memoriam

6th Year Memoriam



In memory of
James Corey Woody,
gone but you'll always
be in our hearts.

We'll always love you
Your family and friends

Dec 16, 1970 - January 2, 2001

Charles of Centerville, OH, and Russell and friend, Tracy of Centerville, OH; sister, Ester Duffy of Las Vegas, NV; brother, Jerome Heska of Gaylord, MI; grandchildren, Dawn, Sean, April, Charles, Jr., Russell, Jr., Renee, Jason, Morgan and Jessica; and great-grandchildren, Emily, Madison, Mason and Haleigh. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Catherine Hall; and great-granddaughter, Brionna Sturgis. Funeral services will be held at 3:00 p.m., January 6, 2007 at Newcomer Funeral Home, 3940 Kettering Blvd., Kettering, OH. Family will receive friends two hours prior to the service. To send a special message to the family, please visit: NewcomerFamily.com.

30. Help Wanted

Child Care Assistant
PT individuals needed to implement a Christian program encompassing art, singing and story reading. Child care experience required.
Call Beth at: 734-697-2985

Lia & TJ's Tastee Donuts is seeking an exp. donut shop baker.
Full Time Position
Salary commensurate with experience.
Call 734-728-2100 to set appt.

MERCHANDISERS needed to service the j-hook and clip strip program in local grocery stores in Wayne, Westland & Garden City areas. Flex AM hours Monday-Friday P/T (approx. 20 hrs/wkly). Need Vehicle, DL & Ins.
Call: 800-216-7909 ext. 708

34. Specialized Services

Need help looking for someone in your family tree? Want to know where great-grandpa was born? Local genealogy services available at very reasonable rates.
Call 734-260-1069 for more info.

WEIGHT LOSS
Caring, compassionate & personalized weight loss programs. Call Diet Center of Canton for your free consultation
734-414-9200

40. Business Opportunity

Earn Extra Money
Full / Part Time
Home Based Business

Call: 734-890-1250

45. Adult Care

Do you want a warm and loving caregiver/ companion?
Just call 248-497-6945 and you'll be glad you did!

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 1/25/07 at 1:30pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at The Storoom Self Storage, 40600 Michigan Avenue, Canton, MI.

Space #125-Joyce Osborne: Household furnishings, Space #729-Abby Oladipo-Morris: Household furnishings, household goods, Space #844: Misc. Small appliances, TV/electronics, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, hand tools, lawn care equipment, office equipment, other misc. items, Space #1413-Johnnie Stivers-Household appliances, misc. small appliances, household furniture, household goods, boxes/bags, hand tools, power tools, lawn care equipment, other misc. items, Space #934-Angela Scott-Household appliances, misc. small appliances, TV/electronics, boxes/bags, clothing, office equipment, other misc. items, Space #403B-Timothy R. Campbell-Misc. small appliances,

boxes/bags, toys, other misc. items, Space #1008B-Wanna Johnson-Boxes/bags, other misc. items

NOTICE is hereby given that on 1/24/07 at 1:00pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Stor-N-Lock, 7840 N. Wayne Road, Westland, MI:

Space #D8-Latoya Cordell-Car, Space #J-24-Priscilla Crawford-Household furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, other misc. items, Space #E-15-Quintile Crofford-Household appliances, misc. small appliances, TV/electronics, household goods, boxes/bags, recreation equipment, other misc. items, Space #M-15-Roger Kendall-Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, Space #D-25-Ian Cowen-Household appliances, household goods, boxes/bags, power tools, Space #L-11-Victoria Thompson-Boxes/bags, toys, recreation equipment, hand tools, other misc. items, Space #E-21-Rodney H. Geter-TV/electronics, household furnishings, boxes/bags, office equipment, other misc. items, Space #H-24-Rondale Powell-Misc. small appliances, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, TV/electronics, Space #L-17-Demetria Frazier-Misc. small appliances, household goods, boxes/bags, office equipment, Space #P-7G-Paula M. Coley-Household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, toys, hand tools, other misc. items, Space #F-26-Cheryl Miller-Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, other misc. items, Space #G-9/10-Mark Rasheed Zockheem-Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, Space #D-13-Daniel Brewer-Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, power tools, Space #C-27-Cheryl Kurlovich-House-

furnishings, boxes/bags, recreation equipment, Space #O-3-Nick Kurlovich-Power tools, other misc. items, Space #P-4-Darlene Christie-Household furnishings, boxes/bags, Space #M-21-Dawad Danner-Household appliances, misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, recreation equipment, TV/electronics, Space #M-12-Diondry Ellis-Household furnishings, Space #H-2E-Fredrick Campbell-Household goods, boxes/bags, TV/electronics, Space #P-12-Tammy Ferrell-Boxes/bags, toys, Space #N-1G-Ronald Fox-Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, other misc. items, Space #C-5-Lori Lario-Misc. boxes/bags, snow removal equipment, hand tools, other misc. items

Notice of Public Sale. On Jan. 16, 2007 at 12:30pm, U-Store-It 401, 28266

Ecorse Road, Romulus, MI 48174 with reserve. will sell by the unit to the highest bidder by CASH all rights, title and interest to the following property:

Space A4-Steven O'Connor-Boxes, tool box, work benches, misc., Space D92-Ricky Allen Stevens, Jr.-Chest, workout bench, tote

Public Auto Auction
Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2007
8:00am
Westland Service Towing
300 S. Newburgh
Westland, MI 48186

97 Ford Explorer
White
1FMCU24X2VUB77424
93 Chrysler Concorde
4Dr Blue
2C3EL56T2PH525843
97 Ford Aspire
2Dr Red
KNJLT05H4V6225249
88 GMC Van
White
1GDDM15Z4JB534624
Note: Vehicles are Canton impounds

32. Help Wanted Drivers



Furniture Delivery Drivers

Non-CDL Local

Exel, a global logistics leader, has an immediate need for career-minded, WORLD CLASS individuals to fill Local Delivery Driver openings.

We offer:

- High Earnings
- Monthly bonus
- Local Routes
- Great Benefits
- Great Team Environment

Qualifications include:

- Minimum of 2 years driving exp
- Chauffer's License
- Good driving record
- Lift up to 100 lbs.
- Exp. with appliance installation and furniture set-up delivery is desired.

Apply in person or send resume to:
29149 Airport Rd, Building 17
Romulus, Michigan 48174
Tim.Maier@US.exel.com
Call 734-947-9274
Fax 734-947-9171

www.exeldirect.com

34. Specialized Services

Automotive Service Center, Inc.

10% OFF YOUR FIRST VISIT!
20% OFF COMPUTER DIAGNOSTIC!

Specializing in Fleet Maintenance, including Mechanical Diagnosis, and Bodyshop Repairs on ALL MAKES & MODELS. Bring Us Your Commercial or Personal Vehicle for Repairs. (Shuttle Service Available to DTW)

27554 Wick Road, Romulus, MI 48174
734-947-9147

BRATCHER ELECTRIC

COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956

Remodeling • Service • City Repairs

 734-722-0037 
35728 Van Born • Wayne

•Weddings

•Anniversaries

•Birthdays

•Bachelor/ette Parties

•Concerts

•Dinner/Night Out

•Airport Services

•Graduations

•Proms

•Corporate



Starlight Entertainment & Limousine, Inc.
24 Hrs a Day, 7 Days a Week
OFFERING HIGHEST QUALITY SERVICE AT REASONABLE RATES
www.starlightinc.com
Call 734-947-7000

Also Providing Quality Entertainment in Metro Detroit!

300C - SUVs - Coaches
Towncars - Excalibur



Worship Directory

Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church

DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. McCLENDON, PASTOR

Sunday

Sunday Morning Prayer (8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.)

Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.)

Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)

Nursery Room Available for Children 4 Years of Age and Under

29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833



St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School
5885 N. Venoy • Westland MI 48185
Phone: 734-425-0260
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Service 8am & 11am • Monday Evenings 7pm
Pastor Kurt Lambert & Pastor Paul Pallatz
Preschool 3 through 8th grade-Fully Accredited

Join Us For Worship



Dana L. Darby, Pastor
"Embrace Each Other As We Serve God"

New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

821 Inkster Rd., Inkster, MI 48141
Tel: 313-565-3006

Sunday School
9:00 a.m.

Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.

61. Misc. Items

NEW Queen Size Orthopedic Pillow Top Mattress and Box Set.
Brand New in plastic with full manufacturer warranty.
Can deliver.
ONLY \$95.00
(734) 326-2744

KING Size Orthopedic Mattress and Split Box Set.

Brand "NEW" in plastic with full factory warranty. Delivery Available.
Sacrifice \$170.00
(734) 721-3799

SOFA & LOVESEAT

Micro-Fiber/Beige Life-Time warranty on frame and fabric warranty. NEW in crate. Delivery Available.
Sacrifice for ONLY \$495.00
(734) 637-2012

NEW 5 Pc. Cherry Bedroom Suite

All brand NEW in boxes. Headboard (Full-Queen), Night Stand, Chest, Dresser and Landscape Mirror.
\$495.00
Delivery Available.
(248) 449-5699

2pc Queen Pillow Top Mattress Set

New in plastic
Sacrifice \$100
Can deliver
734-891-8481

Call

734-467-1900
to place your ad.

3pc King Pillow Top Mattress Set

New in plastic
Sacrifice \$180
734-891-8481

Billiard/Pool Table
8'- New in Box
1" Slate
K66 Tournament Grade
Bumpers, Balls, Sticks,
- Rack
\$850
734-732-9338

Hot Tub
New in box
With warranty, colored
lights, waterfall
Financing-Deliverable
\$1975
313-586-0008

SEASONED FIREWOOD
Cherry, Oak & Maple only
Clean & Dry
Free Delivery
\$75/Face cord
989-429-2246

Yerf-Dog Go-Kart
2 Seater, 6.5HP
Excellent Condition
\$850 OBO
734-326-1736

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres
Motel, low daily and
weekly rates.
Refrigerator, microwave,
HBO.
Call 734-721-1220
Tel-96 Inn
313-535-4100
Fairlane in Novi
248-347-9999
Days Inn/Sunrise Motel
734-427-1300

ROOM FOR RENT Wayne

\$85/weekly
All utilities included.
Call 734-721-0232.

WESTLAND

Private bath, util. inc.
Kitchen privileges
Cable hook-up
\$495/mon.
Call 734-459-3177 or
734-272-3932

88. Duplexes For Rent

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
Call for list of
clean, renovated 2 & 3 BR
duplexes. Most units Lead
Paint safe. Section 8
vouchers welcome.
Some pets permitted.
Flexible move-in cost.
Professional local full-time
management and service.
Office at 2365 S. Venoy.
Norplex Associates
734-722-6444
EHO

WESTLAND
2-3BR Duplexes
900-1,100 sq. ft.
Updated & freshly painted
Sec. 8 welcome
Starting at \$525
plus sec. dep.
Full Time Mgt. staff
CALL FOR MOVE-IN
SPECIALS
Call 734-507-9149

89. Apartments For Rent

INKSTER
Oakland Manor Apts.
Deluxe 1BR, 680 sq. ft.
\$99 Deposit
(some restrictions apply)
Section 8 welcome
call 313-920-5966 or
734-444-5185 or
734-718-8409

PLYMOUTH

McCool Apartments
Spacious 1 & 2 BRs
Heat included
Assigned Parking
Walking Distance to
Downtown Plymouth
2 Months FREE RENT on
All 1 Bedrooms
Located at
Sheldon & N. Territorial
1 BDs from \$531/mon.
Call for details
810-240-8373

WAYNE

Near Wayne Road Quiet
and clean 1 BR Heat and
water inc.
Ideal for singles and
retirees.
No Pets
\$450 moves you in
with approved credit
Sec. 8 welcome
313-561-9818
or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI

Quiet 1 Bedroom, well
maintained, heat/water/A/C
inc., no pets
Great for singles &
retirees
\$470/month
1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH
Call a manager @
734-729-2108 or
734-718-9521
or owner @
734-878-0859

96. Houses For Rent

INKSTER
2BR, remodeled
Section 8 ok
\$550

INKSTER
3BR Brick, basement
Section 8 ok
\$650

Many Homes Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

ROMULUS

House for rent
I-94 and Wayne Rd.
3 BR, 2 BA
Full basement,
2 car garage,
No pets
\$1000/month
734-657-3267

ROMULUS

3BR, air, appliances
Fenced 4 pets
\$700

ROMULUS

2BR, central air
Fenced 4 pets
\$675
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WAYNE

3645 Hubbard
2BR Ranch
2-car garage
Appliances inc.
\$725/mon. plus sec.
Call: 313-389-1741

WAYNE

3BR, pets negotiable
Option 2 buy
\$750

BELLEVILLE

3BR Colonial Remodeled
\$750
All Cities Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WESTLAND

3BR, air, remodeled
Garage
\$750

WESTLAND

3BR, fenced,
New carpet
\$795
Several Homes
Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

106. Houses For Sale

WESTLAND

401 N. Sybald
(N. off Cherry Hill-
W. of Newburgh)
734-595-0989

Spacious 3BR Colonial
Built in 1995
2 car attached garage,
basement,
hardwood floors through-
out, family room w/fire-
place & built-in shelving
Oversized wooded lot
Large cedar deck
Great Neighborhood!

\$205,000

117. Trucks & Vans

2002 Chev. Trailblazer
Ext. Cab, fully loaded
Non-Smoker owned
\$18,900 OBO
734-326-1736

121. Autos Wanted

Top \$\$\$ Paid
For Junk, Disabled or
Wrecked Cars
Drive it in or we'll pick it up
CTS AUTO PARTS
16007 Pardee, Taylor
(Just North of Wm. F. Sell)
(734) 282-1700

Need extra
help?

Advertise in our
classified help
wanted section.
Call 734-467-1900.
TODAY!

Funeral DIRECTORY

Harry J. Will

Funeral Homes
34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184
(734) 721-5600

Tom Lynch • Manager
Jim Henley • Director

Also in Livonia
& Redford

UHT FUNERAL HOME

Harold Rediske Jr., Director
Harold Rediske II, Robert J. Gilbert,
35400 Glenwood Road
Westland, MI 48186 • (734) 721-8555
www.uhtfuneralhome.com



The Penn Funeral Home

"The Funeral Home You Can Believe In"
JAMES H. PENN & SON

313-278-6300

3015 S. Inkster Rd.
Inkster, MI 48141

Business and Service Directory

Accounting & Tax Services

Bottom Line

Accounting &
Tax Services LLC
Phone: (734) 306-8264
www.blats.net
Professionally Prepared:
Individual &
Corporate Tax Returns,
Bookkeeping & Financial
Statements.
Individual Tax Returns
\$100 e-filed.

Appliances

Appliance Outlet Sales & Service

Refrigerators, Stoves,
Washers, Dryers
(Gas or Electric)
Warranty & Delivery
No Service call charge
if repair is done!
36547 Goddard Rd.
Romulus, MI 48174
734-229-0702
Check us out at:
applianceoutletstores.com

Auto Salvage

A-1 Auto Salvage & Scrap
We Buy Scrap Metal &
Junk Cars
Ferrous & Non-Ferrous
Cert. State Truck Scale
Pick-up or Drop-off
2574 State
Ypsilanti, MI
(734) 483-0901

Brick Work

A-1 Brick Repair

Repairs, tuck point,
cement, waterproof.
35 yrs. exp.
Licensed / Insured
No jobs too small
248-478-7949
248-722-3327

Chimney Repair Masonry

HandyMom & 4 Sons
*Gutter Cleaning
*Chimney Repairs
*Basement Leaks
*Tuck Pointing
734-578-1801

Built, repair, cleaned,
Insured, licensed,
45 Years, free estimates,
313 292-7722
**Best Chimney
& Roofing**

Cleaning Service

RELIABLE
ECONOMICAL
House cleaning
References
734-484-1908

Our classifieds
really work!
Call 734-467-1900
to place
your ad today!

Cleaning Service

Handy Clean

JANITORIAL SERVICES
Yard Work
Snow Removal
Window Cleaning
Floor Cleaning
Light Maint. Work
General Cleaning
Painting
Serving West. Wayne County
Licensed & Insured
Call Derrick:
313-550-1977

Construction



Additions • Remodeling
Kitchens, Baths, Basements
Roofing • Siding • Windows
Painting • Decks • Flooring
Marble Tile • Lic/Insured
734-260-6385

Flowers/Nursery

Order Your Wreaths
and Grave blankets
NOW
Garden Fantasy
10501 Haggerty
734-699-7370

Call Eric at
734-467-1900
to place your
Business Directory
advertisement.

Furniture

Plymouth Furniture & Refinishing

- Bedroom Sets
- Antiques Cedar Chests
- Lamps
- Dining Room Sets
- End Tables
- Armoires
- Sofa Tables
- Entertainment Units

331 N. Main St., Ply.
734-453-2133

Handyman



Mr. Handyman
America's #1
Handyman Service
734-671-5888
Small to medium size
projects and "Honey
do items"

HANDYMAN

Experienced
Plumbing, painting
Electrical, Carpentry
Indoor/Outdoor
Maintenance
(734) 658-6973
(313) 532-6053

Moving

TWO MEN AND A TRUCK

"Movers Who Care."
Boxes,
Packaging Supplies
and Packaging
Services for
your Home or
Business Move
Free Estimates
On Time Arrival

734-722-6683
www.twomen.com

Plaster/Drywall

A-1 Plaster & Drywall
Specializing in
dust free repairs.
Custom Painting,
You'll love our work.
Call now:
248 478 7949 or
248 722 3327

Plumbing

ROOTER, MD
Restoring Your
Plumbing's Health
1-800-ROOTER,MD
(1-800-766-8376)
31675 W. Eight Mi.
Livonia, MI 48152
Drain Cleaning Faucets
Sinks/Toilets-Tubs-Shower
Heads-Leaks-Disposals-Sump
Pumps-Water Line/Pipes
Water Heaters-
Tankless/Continuous Water
Heaters-Sewer Snaking,
Jetting & TV Inspection-"No
Dig" Sewer Repair

Roofing

BEST ROOFING AND CHIMNEY

Roofing, Gutters,
Tearoffs
FREE ESTIMATES
LICENSED-INSURED
313-292-7722

Tree Service

Horton's Tree Service

Tree Removals, Trimming,
Shaping, Pruning
Stump & Root Removal
We will try to match or
beat any insured
estimate.
15% discount on any
service, Senior Citizens
receive 20% discount
734-422-1634

Veterinarian

AMAZON ANIMAL CLINIC
(734) 261-9925
"We Make House Calls"
Annual examinations
Vaccinations-Declaw
X-Rays-In-House Lab
We Carry
Frontline Revolution
FLEA Products &
Heart Guard Plus!
28515 Warren
Garden City
(Just. E. of Middlebelt)

Wall Covering

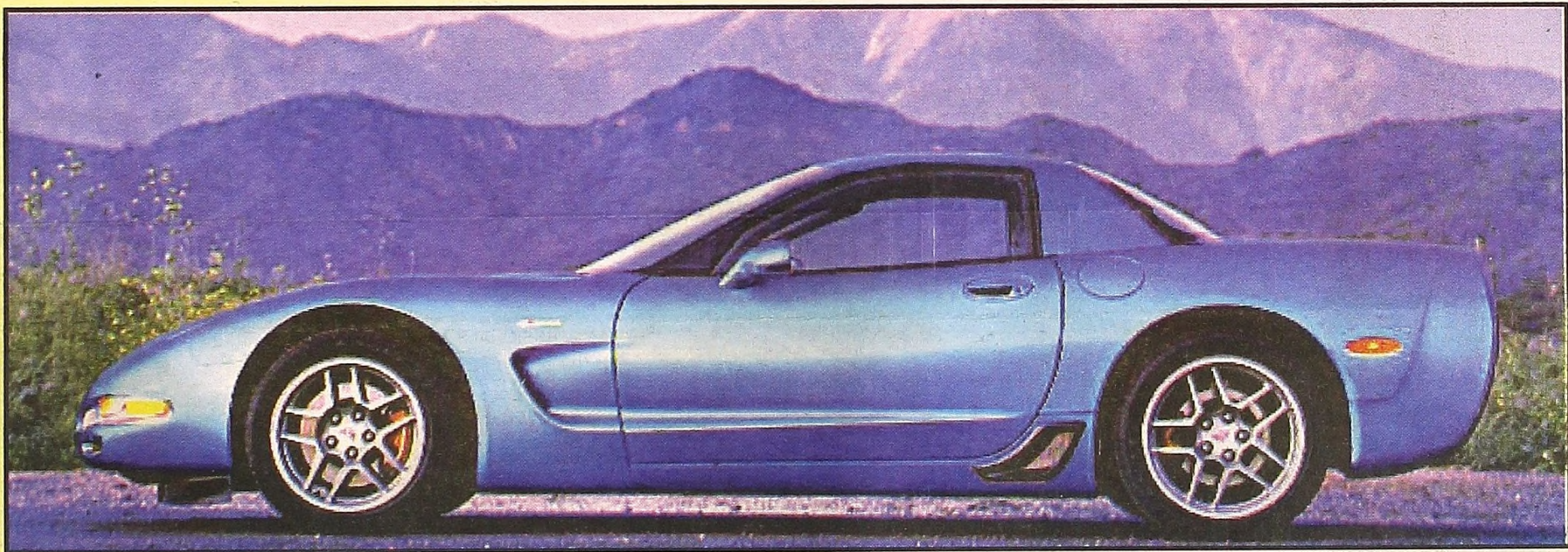
DEBBIE'S WALL COVERING
Wallpaper, Stripping,
Painting
Free Estimate
(734) 775-5740
(734) 671-3348

Call Eric at 734-467-1900
to place your Business
Directory advertisement.

GTS

Performance Transmission
Complete Transmission Service -
- Stock To Performance

FREE Towing With Major Repair • FREE Estimates



10% OFF

Any Major Service

-or-

\$10⁰⁰ OFF

Any Service

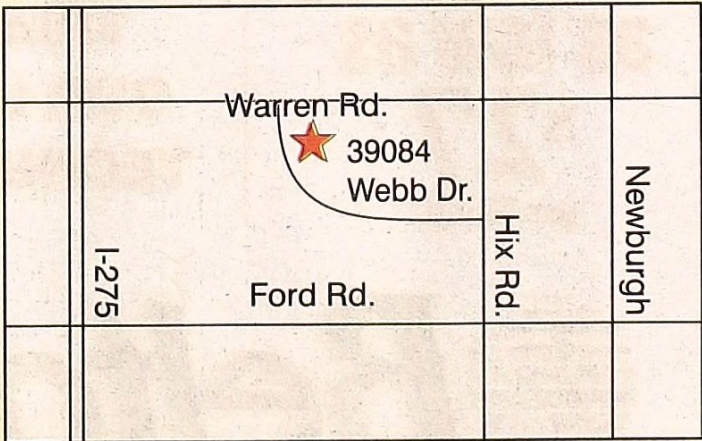
With this coupon • Exp. 02-28-07

Complete Auto Service Available!
Call For Details!

734.722.8686

39084 Webb Dr. • Suite A • Westland

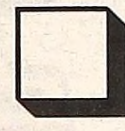
Open: Mon.-Fri. 8am - 6pm Closed Weekends



Which is more important to you?



**Quality
Hearing**



**Cheap
Price**

Because you can only choose one



*The name you have
trusted for over 66 years.*



Helping the world hear better!

Always #1 in Value!



**Hearing help
as low as
\$27
per Month**

**RISK FREE
TRIAL ON
OUR LATEST
TECHNOLOGY**

**Belton
Digitals
Starting at
\$995**

**FREE
Hearing
Screening**



889 Sumpter Rd. · Belleville

734-697-5363

Gary Montgomery, Master Hearing Care Practitioner

HOURS: Tues. & Fri. 9-4:00 · Wednesday 9-1:00 · Saturday CLOSED

There is no bait and switch at Belton.